

Journal of Key Concepts

This journal is essentially a complex dialectical notebook which you will organize in terms of our course's key concepts (which will also be referred to as key terms). You will develop this journal over the course of this semester, and will be asked to make journal entries in relation to each text we read.

inquiry	reflection	revision	discourse community	genre
	rhetorical situation	audience	context	purpose

Create a chapter for each key concept. Create a triple column layout for each chapter; each chapter will need several pages for multiple entries. One idea: set out two blank pages (one on the left and one on the right side of a binder) and draw a vertical line down the center of the left page, creating two columns. Looking at these two open pages from left to right, the left column will be for quoting and citing passages from each of our texts, the middle column is for explaining how and why each quote represents, extends, challenges etc the key concept in that chapter, and the right column (a whole page) is available for recording your synthesis (how patterns of meaning and connections form as you add more passages to each chapter/key concept category). This layout is just one idea of many; you are encouraged to create a triple-entry notebook that works for you. Both digital and handwritten journals are welcome. If digital, please be prepared to print it (possibly in its entirety and in parts), and if it is handwritten, please make sure it is clearly legible so that any one of us could read it without difficulty.

From now on, as you read and gloss each text, remember to use our set of key terms as a *lens*. In your glosses, identify and label passages that relate to key concepts and capture a bit of the related *how and why* there and then in the margins. This will help you locate and re-enter passages easily as you create your journal entries.

As we encounter more texts you will be asked to read and review your categories and definitions in process, to reconsider your categorization and explanation of relationships as your definitions develop and grow. Notice and discuss how the meaning and use of each key term varies slightly in each different context (reading/text).

Please feel free to discuss how passages can fit into multiple categories as they potentially relate to several key terms. Work to explain the interaction, relationship, connections among key terms/concepts.

This process has value. The journal will be worth 100+ points (tba) when completed. You will also be asked to complete a performance project (100 points) on the data you collect in this journal (2-4 single-spaced, typed, polished pages). Together this data collection, analysis, and essay will be worth at least two test grades. Your journal will also be a key resource for you as you develop your inquiry and scholarly argument (our larger performance project of the semester).

Assignment 3: Journal entries related to "Research Starts with a Thesis Statement" - hard copies due **Monday, January 29th** at the beginning of class. Using our set of key terms as a lens, reread/regloss the text. Sort cited passages into different chapters based on the relationship to key concepts. In one column quote and cite the passage accurately (MLA). In another column, explain how and why the passage warrants "membership" in that category. Identify, name, and explain the relationship between the meaning of the passage (in context) and the key term (as you understand it).